Applies To: **2002 CR-V 2WD** – From VIN JHLRD6...2C000001 thru JHLRD6...2C002706
2002 CR-V 4WD – From VIN JHLRD7...2C000001 thru JHLRD7...2C007138

January 15, 2002

Safety Recall: CR-V Seat Belt Buckle Tensioners

(Supersedes 01-103, dated December 18, 2001)

BACKGROUND

The CR-V is equipped with seat belt tensioners in both front seating positions. Some tensioners use a part that limits the full motion of the mechanism. If these tensioners deploy in a collision, the seat belt may release, leaving the front seat occupants unrestrained.

CUSTOMER NOTIFICATION

In a DCS message sent on November 13, 2001, dealers were notified to contact all 2002 CR-V owners by telephone and tell them not to drive their vehicles. The dealer should have all those vehicles towed to the dealership.

If customers cannot be contacted by dealers, a notification letter will be sent to them. An example of the customer notification is on page 4.

Most of the affected vehicles are still in dealer inventory. ***According to Federal law, these vehicles cannot be sold or leased until they are repaired.***

Not all 2002 CR-Vs within the VIN range are affected by this safety recall. Before you begin, check for vehicle eligibility by doing one of the following.

- Check the vehicle's VIN on your campaign responsibility report.
- Do a VIN status inquiry on DCS.
- Verify that the customer has a customer letter.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

Replace the tensioner tubes on the driver's and front passenger's seat belt buckle tensioner assemblies.

PARTS INFORMATION

Repair kits were supplied to dealers at no cost. No parts should be listed on the warranty claim.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Hondalock 1 Threadlock:
P/N 08713-0001, H/C 2963825
or
Loctite Threadlocker 242
or
Permatex Threadlocker BLUE

Hondalock 3 Threadlock:
P/N 08713-0003, H/C 2963841
or
Loctite Threadlocker 262
or
Permatex Threadlocker RED

WARRANTY CLAIM INFORMATION

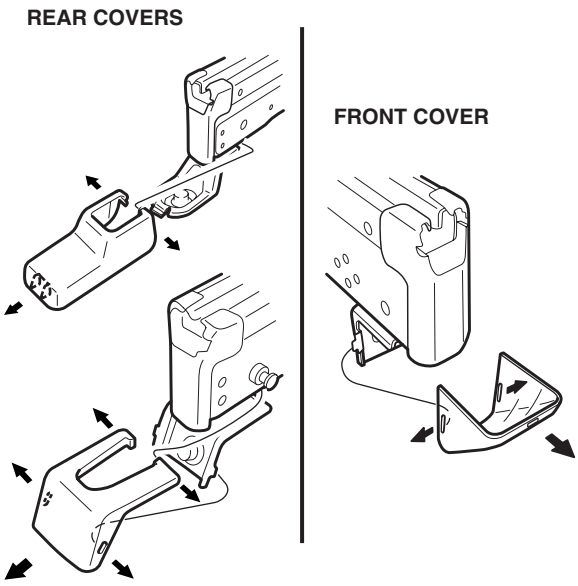
Operation Number:	854001
Flat Rate Time:	1.0 hour
Failed Part:	P/N 04813-S9A-A00ZA H/C 6885263
Defect Code:	5AM
Contention Code:	L44
Template ID:	01-103A
Skill Level:	Repair Technician

REPAIR PROCEDURE

1. Make sure you have the anti-theft code for the radio, then write down the radio station presets.
2. Disconnect the negative cable from the battery, then wait at least 3 minutes.
3. Remove the seat track end covers from the front passenger's seat.

NOTICE

To prevent damage when you remove interior trim pieces, use a flat-tip screwdriver wrapped with protective tape.



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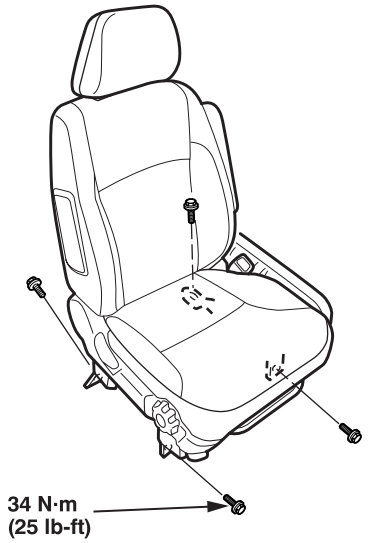
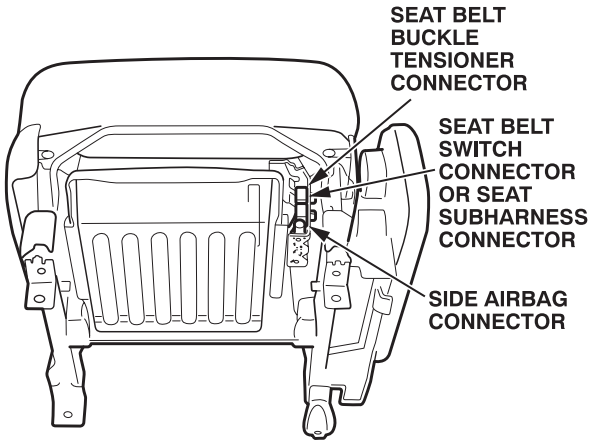
Skill Level R REPAIR

CUSTOMER INFORMATION: The information in this bulletin is intended for use only by skilled technicians who have the proper tools, equipment, and training to correctly and safely maintain your vehicle. These procedures should not be attempted by "do-it-yourselfers," and you should not assume this bulletin applies to your vehicle, or that your vehicle has the condition described. To determine whether this information applies, contact an authorized Honda automobile dealer.

4. Remove the four bolts that secure the front passenger's seat.

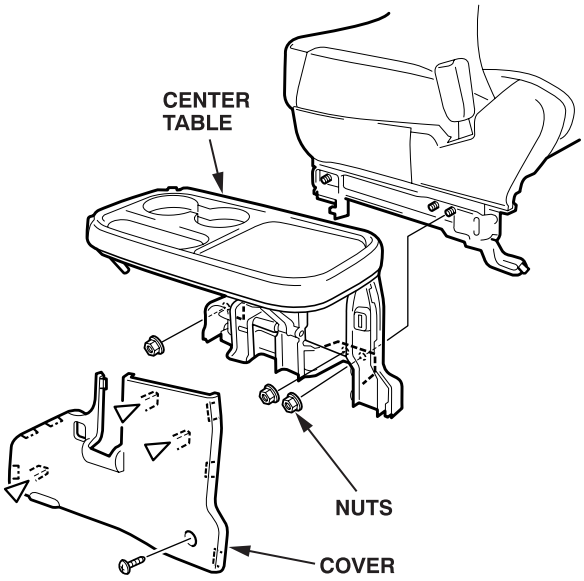


5. While lifting the seat, disconnect the seat belt switch connector (or seat subharness connector), the seat belt buckle tensioner connector, and if equipped, the side airbag connector.



6. Remove the headrest.

7. Remove the center table (cover and three nuts).



8. With the help of an assistant, carefully remove the seat through the front passenger's door opening.

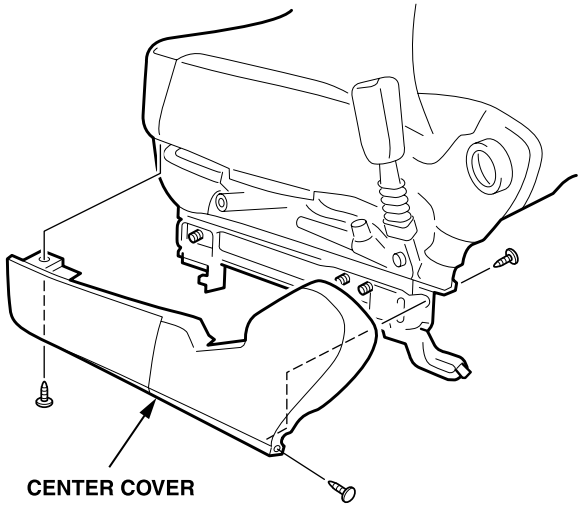
⚠ CAUTION

To protect your hands from sharp metal, wear gloves when removing the seat.

NOTICE

Be careful not to scratch the body or tear the seat covers.

9. Remove the center cover from the seat (two clips, one tab, and two hooks).

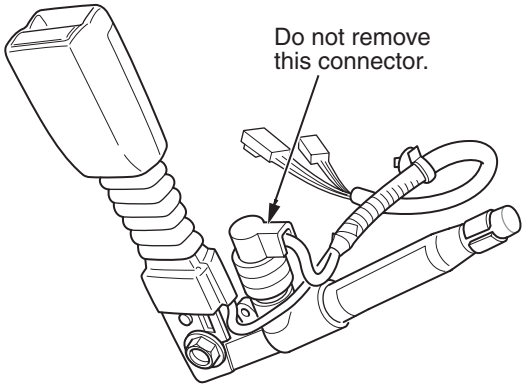


10. If equipped with side airbags, remove the harness band, and disconnect the seat subharness connector. If not equipped with side airbags, detach the seat belt switch connector clip and seat belt buckle tensioner connector clip.

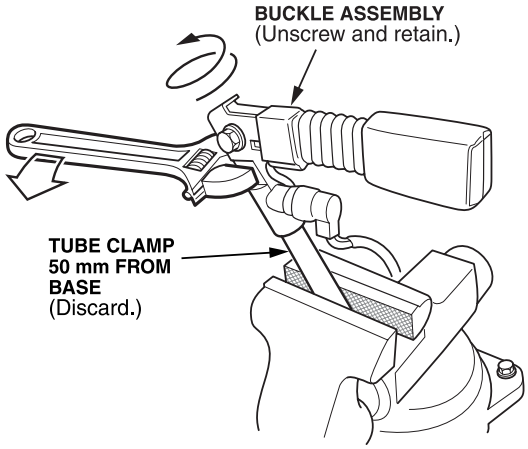
11. Remove the center anchor bolt from the front passenger's seat belt buckle assembly, then remove the assembly.

    NOTE:

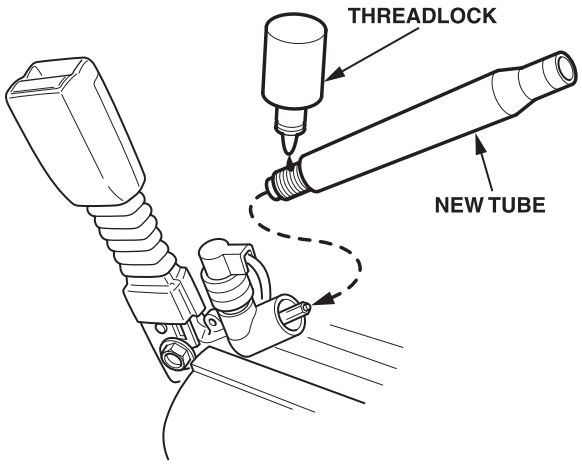
    - Handle the seat belt buckle assemblies carefully, and wear safety glasses.
    - Do not disassemble or remove any parts from the seat belt buckle assembly except the tensioner tube. Removing the tensioner tube does not disturb the explosive material inside the tensioner because the tensioner squib is automatically shorted when you disconnect the seat belt buckle tensioner connector.
    - Do not disconnect the black connector from the top of the tensioner; doing this would defeat the shorting of the squib.



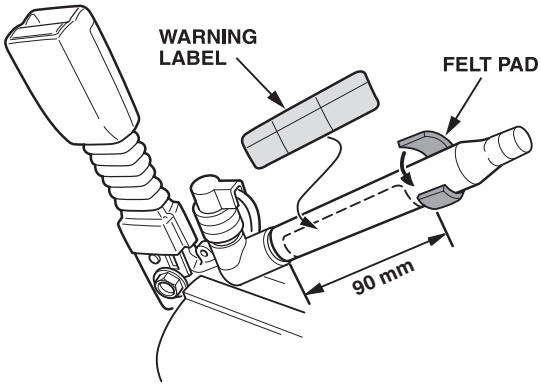
12. Inside the passenger's compartment, remove the center cover from the driver's seat (two clips, one tab, and two hooks).
13. Under the driver's seat, disconnect the two electrical connectors for the seat belt buckle harness.
14. Remove the center anchor bolt from the driver's seat belt buckle assembly, then remove the assembly.
15. Place the tensioner tube of either seat belt buckle assembly in a bench vise. Make sure the vise is clamped at least 2 inches (50 mm) from the base of the tube.



16. Use an adjustable wrench on the flat part of the buckle assembly to unscrew the assembly from the tube. Cut the wire tie if it is too tight to slip the tube out of it. Discard the tube.
17. Place the seat belt buckle assembly in the vise with the buckle bolt facing toward you. To avoid damaging the assembly, *do not overtighten the vise.*
18. Make sure the bore of the new tube is clear, then place one drop of Hondalock 3 Threadlock on the threads of the tube, about two-thirds up on the threads. *Do not use more than one drop of Threadlock.*



19. Install the new tube in the buckle assembly. Thread the tube, by hand, until it bottoms (about two threads should still be showing). *Do not use a wrench or pliers.*
    - If the tube will not thread in smoothly and easily by hand, try a different tube.
    - If the second tube will not thread in easily, replace the seat belt buckle assembly, and dispose of the old assembly. For disposal information, refer to page 23-136 of the 2002 CR-V Service Manual.
20. If you cut the wire tie in step 16, install a new one.
21. Install a felt pad around the tube, 3.5 inches (90 mm) from its base.



22. Install the warning label on the tube. Make sure it is facing the outside of the assembly so it can be read easily after the assembly is installed on the seat.
23. Repeat steps 15 thru 22 on the other seat belt buckle assembly.
24. Install the driver's seat belt buckle assembly onto the driver's seat. Apply Hondalock 1 Threadlock to the buckle bolt, and torque the bolt to 32 N·m (24 lb-ft). Route the harness under the seat, and reconnect the connectors.
25. Install the passenger's seat belt buckle assembly onto the passenger's seat. Apply Hondalock 1 Threadlock (or equivalent) to the buckle bolt, and torque the bolt to 32 N·m (24 lb-ft). Route the harness under the seat, and reconnect the connectors.
26. Install the center table on the front passenger's seat, then install the seat in the reverse order of removal.
27. Connect the negative cable to the battery.
28. Initialize the driver's window auto-up feature.
    - With the engine running and the driver's window fully closed, push and hold the driver's window switch until the window is fully open.
    - Pull back and hold the window switch until the window is fully closed, then hold the switch at least 2 seconds.
29. Relearn the idle.
    - With all electrical loads off, start the engine, and let it reach normal operating temperature.
    - Keep the engine idling for 10 minutes.
30. Enter the anti-theft code for the radio, then enter the radio station presets, and set the clock.
31. Center-punch a completion mark above the first character of the engine compartment VIN.

NOTE: This letter will only be mailed if all customers do not respond to the dealer request for vehicle repair.

Example of Customer Letter

January 2002

Safety Recall: Seat Belt Buckle Tensioners

Dear CR-V Owner:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

What is the reason for this notice?

Honda Motor Co., Ltd., has determined that a defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists in the automatic seat belt tensioners in certain 2002 model year CR-V vehicles. The CR-V is equipped with two seat belt tensioners—one in the retractor and one in the buckle—in both the driver and front passenger seating positions. Some buckle tensioners use a part that restricts the full motion of the mechanism. If these tensioners activate in a crash, the seat belt may unlatch, leaving the front seat occupants unrestrained.

What should you do?

Please call your nearest Honda automobile dealer immediately to confirm that your vehicle is affected by this recall. If your vehicle is affected, the dealer will arrange for your vehicle to be transported to the dealership for repairs and coordinate the repair arrangements. You should stop driving your vehicle and, if necessary, request alternate transportation. Both front seat belt buckle tensioners will be repaired, free of charge.

⚠ WARNING

Do not drive your CR-V until it has been repaired.

If the seat belt buckle tensioner activates in a crash, the seat belt may unlatch.

If you are not restrained by a seat belt during a crash, you could be killed or seriously hurt.

Who to contact if you experience problems.

If you are not satisfied with the service you receive from your Honda dealer, you may write to:

American Honda Motor Co., Inc.
Honda Automobile Customer Service
Mail Stop 500-2N-7D
1919 Torrance Blvd.
Torrance, CA 90501-2746

If you believe that American Honda or the dealer has failed or is unable to remedy the defect in your vehicle, without charge, within a reasonable period of time (60 days from the date you first contact the dealer for a repair appointment), you may submit a complaint to:

Administrator
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

Or call the toll-free Auto Safety Hotline at (888) 327-4236.

What to do if you feel this notice is in error.

Our records show that you are the current owner or lessee of a 2002 CR-V involved in this recall. If this is not the case, or the name/address information is incorrect, please fill out and return the included, postage-paid *Information Change Card*. This will help us to update our records.

If you have questions.

If you have questions about this notice, or need assistance with contacting a Honda dealer, please call Honda Automobile Customer Service at (800) 999-1009.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you.

Sincerely,

American Honda Motor Co., Inc.
Honda Automobile Division